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Informational Newsletter

CORN ACREAGE COMPLIANCE EXPLAINED

There are three main ways in which a corn farmer may bring his 1956 corn acreage into compliance with the acreage reserve program of the Soil Bank.

- 1. The farmer may underplant his corn base and certify that this was done in anticipation of complying with the 1956 Acreage Reserve or because of adverse weather conditions at planting time.
- 2. He may refrain from harvesting the crop on a portion of his corn base acreage because of destruction by natural causes.
- 3. He may plow or otherwise physically incorporate an agreed-upon acreage of the crop into the soil or clip, mow, or cut it no later than July 31.

Points 2 and 3 are special provisions for the 1956 crop year because of the late enactment of the program. It is anticipated that different provisions will apply to 1957 and succeeding crops under the Soil Bank.

Corn land placed in the Acreage Reserve in any of the above ways may not be cut for hay or cropped for the entire 1956 calendar year. It must not be grazed after June 22. Noxious weeds must be kept under control on the acreage.

Farmers in Delaware will be paid at the rate of \$1.00 per bushel times the appraised normal yield for their farms. The average normal yields of corn are: New Castle County, 47.8 bushels; Kent County, 44.6 bushels and; Sussex County 42.1 bushels.

An agreement must be signed before July 20 at the County ASC Office.

WHEAT FARMERS MUST COMPLY BY JUNE 30 FOR ACREAGE RESERVE

Wheat farmers who were in compliance with their acreage allotments by deadline date of May 31, may qualify for Acreage Reserve this year by the following

- 1. Comply with their corn base acreage on the same farm.
- 2. The designated Acreage Reserve must not be cut for hay or cropped for the entire year or grazed after June 22, and
- 3. If the wheat seeded in the fall of 1955 was less than the farm allotment due to adverse weather conditions, or

- 4. If the compliance with the Acreage Reserve occurred from destruction by natural causes such as winterkill, flood, hail, etc., or
- 5. If the compliance with Acreage Reserve is by plowing or otherwise physically incorporating the crop into the soil, or by clipping, mowing or cutting the wheat crop. The normal wheat yields are: New Castle County, 20.4; Kent County, 18.0 Sussex County, 17.5.

Apply at your County ASC Office for further details.

OBSERVE ALL ALLOTMENUS TO EARN SOIL BANK ACREAGE RESERVE PAYMENTS

A farmer with acreage allotments for more than one crop must comply with all of them in order to earn payments under the new Soil Bank Acreage Reserve Program. A Delaware farmer must harvest within his wheat allotment or 15 acres which ever is larger to be eligible to put corn land into Acreage Reserve and vice versa, he must plant within his Soil Bank corn base to be eligible to put his wheat land into Acreage Reserve.

PAYMENT RATES FOR 1955 WOOL INCENTIVE PROGRAM

The USDA announced that the average price producers received for shorn wool marketed during the 1955 marketing year was 42.8 cents per pound as determined by the Agricultural Marketing Service on the basis of information reported by producers in their applications for payment under the program. The wool incentive payment rate of 44.9 percent is the amount needed to bring the average return per pound of shorn wool up to the incentive level of 62 cents per pound. To determine the wool incentive payment for individual producers, the rate of 44.9 percent is applied to the dollar return producers received for wool after paying marketing charges. This payment rate means that each producer will receive an incentive payment of \$44.90 for every \$100 received from the sale of shorn wool.

The lamb payment rate is determined on the basis of the average shorn wool incentive payment, the average weight of wool per hundred pounds of lamb, and the value of lamb wool in relation to shorn wool. The lamb payment is 77 cents per hundredweight of live animal.

County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Offices will begin making payments to producers shortly after July 1. Applications for payment were filed with these offices prior to April 30. The payments made will be only on wool and lambs and yearlings marketed between April 1, 1955 and March 31, 1956. To be eligible for payments, the wool must have been shorn after January 1, 1955, and the lambs and yearlings marketed for slaughter only.

Substantially the same program is being continued for 1956. The wool incentive price is being continued at 62 cents per pound, grease basis. Wool must be marketed between April 1, 1955 and March 31, 1956 to be eligible for payment under the 1956 operation. Applications for payment should be filed with County ASC Offices not later than April 30, 1956. Under the wool payment program it is to the advantage of each grower to do a good job of marketing and get the best price possible for his wool.

WHEAT - - - 1957 QUOTAS - ALLOTMENTS

A referendum of wheat growers in the 1957 commercial wheat-producing area on July 20 will decide two questions about the 1957 wheat program:

- 1. Whether marketing quotas, with penalties on "excess" wheat, are to be in effect for the 1957 wheat crop; and
 - 2. The level of price support available for cooperators."

At least two-thirds of those voting must approve if the quotas are to be in operation.

If the quotas are approved, price supports will be available to each farmer who complies with his farm wheat acreage allotment at a level between 75 and 90 percent of parity; if quotas are not approved, price support will be available to such farmers at 50 percent of parity, as provided by law.

The referendum vote is on quotas, not allotments.

Acreage allotments will remain in effect for the 1957 wheat crop even if marketing quotas are disapproved. Polling places will be announced later for each county.

CONDITIONS FOR 1956-CROP CORN PRICE SUPPORTS

The maximum price support for corn, will be a national average of \$1.50 a bushel in the commercial corn area, approximately \$1.66 for farm-stored corn in Delaware. Farmers in the commercial area may become eligible for this maximum support level by:

- 1. Complying with their corn acreage allotments, or
- 2. Complying with the new Soil Bank price support requirements for corn price-support.

To qualify for the maximum corn price support in commercial areas under the Soil Bank requirements, as in item 2 above, a farmer must put an acreage of his crop land equal to 15 percent of his corn "base acreage" into either the corn Acreage Reserve or the general Conservation Reserve. Farmers are now being notified of their corn base acreage."

To qualify through the Corn Acreage Reserve, a farmer must not have a corn acreage in excess of 85 percent of his corn base acreage; and he must designate an acreage equal to 15 percent of his corn base acreage from which he has not and will not harvest a crop or cut hay in 1956, or graze after June 22, 1956.

To qualify for the maximum corn price in commercial areas through the Conservation Reserve, a farmer must not exceed his corn base acreage; and he must designate an acreage of general crop land equal to 15 percent of his corn base acreage which he will contract to devote to specified

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conservation uses, and from which he has not or will not harvest a crop, cut hay, or graze for the life of the contract. The contract may be for from 3 to 15 years, depending on type of conservation measure applied to the land.

Farmers in the commercial corn area who comply neither with their corn acreage allotments or with the provisions of the Soil Bank will be eligible for the non-compliance rate of support -- on the basis of a national average of \$1.25 a bushel, approximately \$1.38 for farm-stored corn in Delaware.

WHEAT PRICE SUPPORT RATES

Wheat support rates for the 1956 crop are based on the national support price of \$2.00 per bushel as announced by the USDA on April 23. This price is 8 cents below the support for the 1955 crop. The 1956 price to farmers will be determined by grade and location of storage.

NATIONAL FARM SAFETY WEEK - July 22-28, 1956

The President has proclaimed July 22-28 as National Farm Safety Week. He has requested all persons and organizations interested in the welfare of farm people to join in this annual campaign to reduce the tragic loss of life.

Secretary Benson has strongly urged all services and field offices of the Department to cooperate fully in this campaign. ASC State and County employees should use their numerous contacts with farm people to emphasize the importance of Farm Safety Week, thereby helping to reduce the toll of farm accidents.

. . . SAFETY PAYS ALL WAYS

In order to comply with the Soil Bank Acreage Reserve for the 1956 crops of corn or wheat, farmers must sign an agreement at their County ASC Office on or before July 20, 1956.

Don't take action to participate in the Soil Bank until you have consulted with your ASC Committee or Office Manager.

FOR THE DELAWARE ASC STATE COMMITTEE

Paul W. Mitchell

State Administrative Officer

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Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee
Courtney and Academy Streets
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